

**United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V  
POLLUTION REPORT**

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



277426

**Date:** Friday, June 29, 2007

**From:** Brian Kelly, OSC

<b>To:</b> Bill Bolen, U.S. EPA Jason El-Zein, U.S. EPA Beverly Kush, U.S. EPA Tracy Johnson, U.S. EPA John Maritote, U.S. EPA Brian Schlieger, U.S. EPA Michael Chezik, U.S. DOI Jane Mackey, Congressman Conyers Jeffrey Bonkoski, Trenton FD B Boyle, MDCH Paul Owens, MDEQ Tom Sampson, MDEQ Edward Novak, MDEQ Mark Hammond, Wayne County	Linda M. Nachowicz, U.S. EPA David Chung, U.S. EPA - HQ Barbara Carr, U.S. EPA Stuart Hill, U.S. EPA A Marouf, U.S. EPA Mick Hans, U.S. EPA Dan Sheill, U.S. FWS Duty Officer, NRC Dave Michalak, Trenton FD Joe Walczak, MDEQ Dan Yordanich, MDEQ Richard Conforti, MDEQ Tracy Kecskemeti, MDEQ Susan Thompson, Wayne County
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**Subject:** Initiation of Action  
DSC Trenton → Detroit Steel Co.  
Trenton, MI

<b>POLREP No.:</b>	1	<b>Site #:</b>	
<b>Reporting Period:</b>		<b>D.O. #:</b>	
<b>Start Date:</b>	6/14/2007	<b>Response Authority:</b>	CERCLA/OPA
<b>Mob Date:</b>	6/14/2007	<b>Response Type:</b>	Emergency
<b>Completion Date:</b>		<b>NPL Status:</b>	Non NPL
<b>CERCLIS ID #:</b>		<b>Incident Category:</b>	Removal Assessment
<b>RCRIS ID #:</b>		<b>Contract #</b>	
<b>FPN#</b>		<b>Reimbursable Account #</b>	

**Site Description**

The DSC-Trenton Site (aka Detroit Steel Co formerly McLouth Steel) is a former steel production facility located at 1491 West Jefferson Avenue, Trenton, Michigan.

The facility in Trenton and a sister facility in Gibraltar, Michigan are the subject of a 1999 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Comprehensive Corrective Action and Remedial Consent Order (Order). The Order among other things requires the Trenton facility to collect and remove oil from a basement.

On June 14, 2007, an open pond use by DSC to collect oil caught fire. Trenton Fire Department and the Downriver Emergency Response Team (DERT) responded.

According to the fire department's after action report, the fire cause heavy black smoke that moved toward a graduation ceremony being held at the local high school. DERT air monitoring showed the area to be safe.

Because the 200-acre Trenton facility has no water supply, fire fighting efforts were delayed while a crash truck from the airport was requested. Application of AFFF foam and 3000 gallons of water extinguished the fire.

During review of the scene, first responders identified hundreds of 5-gallon containers of water-reactive wastes and numerous other 55-gallon drums stored near the location of the fire. DERT requested U.S. EPA assistance. OSC Brian Kelly responded. Due to darkness, a decision was made to further investigate the facility the following day.

### **Current Activities**

On June 15, OSC Kelly, Trenton Fire Captain Jeff Bonkoski and Fire Marshall Dave Michalak conducted a further investigation of the site. During the investigation hundreds of drums, totes, lab chemicals, and other waste containers were found throughout the site. Many of these containers were leaking, unsecured, and accessible to trespassers and the elements. Evidence of trespassing, graffiti, and fence-line breaches was documented (see website photos).

On June 27, OSC Kelly, Fire Marshall Michalak, City of Trenton official Virgil Maiani, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agent Dan Sheill, and DEQ officials Richard Conforti, Dan Yordanich, Paul Ownes, Tom Sampson, Edward Novak, and Tracy Kecskemeti inspected the site.

Noted during the inspection were the same items identified on June 15, with the addition of dead birds in violation of the Migratory Bird Act and documentation of more than 1,000 unsecured (some leaking into the secondary containment) PCB capacitors.

### **Planned Removal Actions**

Michigan DEQ is preparing to request U.S. EPA assistance with removal of containerized wastes. Following the June 27 inspection, OSC Kelly instructed DSC to:

- 1) collect, secure, stage, sample, and label containerized wastes,
- 2) improve site security and provide a site security plan,
- 3) address health and safety issues such as open pits,
- 4) submit a schedule to accomplish these tasks.

Under the Order, Michigan DEQ will continue to work with DSC to address oil removal. If DSC does not comply with the Order, DEQ may request U.S. EPA assistance.

### **Next Steps**

Oversee efforts of DSC, provide assistance to Michigan DEQ and Trenton Fire Department.

**Estimated Costs \***

	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Total To Date</b>	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>% Remaining</b>
<b>Extramural Costs</b>				
<b>Intramural Costs</b>				
USEPA	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	(\$1,500.00)	0.00%
<b>Total Site Costs</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>(\$1,500.00)</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

\* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

[epaossc.net/dsctrenton](http://epaossc.net/dsctrenton)